## REMARKS

The foregoing amendment and the remarks which follow are responsive to the final office action dated May 31, 2005. In that office action, claims 69 and 81-85 were allowed as written; claims 62 and 63 were objected to on grounds that the structural features recited in those claims were not shown in the drawings ; claims 44-47, 54-56, 60, 61, 67, 68, 76, 77, and 87-94 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,398,808 (Palasis); claims 95-100 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,613,074 (Mitelberg et al.)claims 62 and 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Palasis and claims 64-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Palasis in view of Mitelberg et al.

By the present amendment, dependent claims 62 and 63 have been cancelled, thereby obviating the objection regarding showing of the claimed feature in the drawings.

Also, by the present amendment independent claims 44, 76, 77, 89 and 95 have been amended to clarify the claimed subject matter. As amended, each of these amended independent claims recites a device that is implanted within the body (or a method in which a device is implanted within a body) to treat an aneurysm, wherein the device has a material disposed thereon, such material having a first state of protonation prior to implantation in the body and undergoing a change to a second state of protonation after implantation in the body, such change in the state of protonation giving rise to expansion of the reactive material. Several of the independent claims additionally recite that the expansion of the material causes a decrease in the size of adjacent openings or fenestrations in the device, thereby lessening the amount of blood that may flow through those fenestrations or openings into the aneurysm. These amendments are fully supported by the written description, including paragraphs 0048 and 0049 that were added by amendment filed on April 18, 2005.

The prior art does not teach or suggest any implantable aneurysm treatment device

that is fully or partially coated with a material that is a) initially in a first state of protonation (e.g., a deprotonized state), b) subsequently transitions to a second state of protonation (e.g., a protonized state) in response to having been implanted in the body and c) undergoes expansion as a result of the change in the material's state of protonation.

Palasis describes implantable devices that are coated with "biostable" polymers which contain genetic material and which release the genetic material following implantation within the body. Palasis does not describe any change in the state of protonation of the polymer coating. Moreover, Palasis not mention or even remotely suggest any expansion of the polymer coating to bring about an intended therapeutic effect. Indeed, Palasis' polymer coatings perform their intended therapeutic effects by carrying and releasing genetic material, not by undergoing controlled expansion. Thus, the invention described by Palasis is quite different from that recited in Applicant's amended claims.

Mittelberg et al. describes implantable aneurysm embolization devices, but makes no mention or suggestion of any expandable coating on those devices, or any material that undergoes expansion as a result of a change in its state of protonation. Thus, invention described by Mitelberg et al. is also quite different from that recited in Applicant's amended claims.

Accordingly, all claims 44-47, 54-56, 60, 61, 64-69, 76, 77 and 87-100 are in condition for allowance and issuance of a notice of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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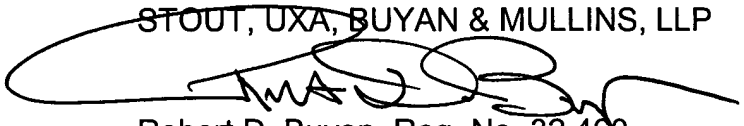

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